

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 9, 2009 @ 6:30 PM

ORDERED THAT the DPW provide the City Council a contingency plan once the landfill has reached maximum capacity. What options are available to the City?

ORDERED THAT the Community Development Office, Law Department, Mayor, and Building Department appear before the City Council's Finance Sub-Committee to discuss the long term fiscal impact that the land taking of the former Uniroyal property will have. In addition be prepared to discuss any Community Block Grant monies applied to or intended to be applied to this project.



CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL
FINANCE COMMITTEE

ACCEPTED 7-29-09

MEMBERS

William Zaskey, Chairman
Shane Brooks, Vice-Chairman
James Tillotson
George Moreau
Dino Brunetti
John Vieau
Fred Krampits

MINUTES
July 9, 2009

The following are the minutes of a public hearing held Thursday, July 9, 2009 at 6:30 PM in the City Council Chambers, Fourth Floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013.

Members Present

Zaskey, Brooks, Tillotson, Brunetti, Vieau, Moreau

Absent

Krampits

Also Present

Councilor Zygarowski, Stan Kulig (DPW Superintendent), Mayor Bissonnette, William O'Grady (Associate City Solicitor), Tom Haberin (Community Development)

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM

ITEM #1

Motion made to remove from the table the following order:

ORDERED THAT the DPW provide the City Council a contingency plan once the landfill has reached maximum capacity. What options are available to the City?

Motion passed.

Stanley Kulig provided the following memo dated July 6, 2009

Please accept this response to the Council's request for information regarding the eventual closing of the local landfill on New Lombard Road.

- 1. The current projection indicates that the landfill will reach capacity in 2014. These projections are updated yearly.*
- 2. The City has an agreement with Waste Management, Inc., (WMI) that allows disposal of our trash at the landfill as long as landfill capacity is available.*
- 3. Current "Dump Caretaking" costs are approximately \$1 million dollars a year. It is expected that in five (5) years the annual cost of disposal will be about \$1.5 million under the current contract. Once the landfill reaches capacity, it is projected that the City's trash disposal costs would more than double, to about \$3.5 million per year.*
- 4. The current agreement with WMI has a provision that pays the City a "host community fee". This past fiscal year, the City realized a payment of about \$1 million from WMI. It is expected that an annual payment at this level would continue through landfill closure. The host community revenue would stop once the landfill closes.*
- 5. The City has engaged in some preliminary discussions with WMI regarding the future of Chicopee's trash disposal needs. Landfill expansion does not appear to be a viable option at*

this time. The best current option for post-landfill disposal of Chicopee trash seems to be dumping at a local/regional transfer facility at the increased costs noted earlier.

Stanley stated that WMI has a transfer station in Springfield and Wilbraham. By law WMI is permitted 365,000 tons at the dump. The additional waste that is brought in from other states to Chicopee is allowable because WMI is not exceeding the allowable yearly tonnage.

Stanley is to keep the Council updated on this issue.

Committee vote 6 – 0 favorable.

ITEM #2

ORDERED THAT the Community Development Office, Law Department, Mayor, and the Building Department appear before the City Council's Finance Sub-Committee to discuss the long term fiscal impact that the land taking of the former Uniroyal property will have. In addition be prepared to discuss any Community Block Grant monies applied to or intended to be applied to this project.

William O'Grady stated that the City is now owner of the Uniroyal property. Michelin is the responsible party for the clean-up of the site. The plan is to demolish buildings 1-6 on the lowest tier and possibly 2. Then Michelin will be able to access this area and test for containments. Michelin refuses to access this area with the structures because it is dangerous.

Tom Haberlin informed the committee that bids for the demolish should go out at the end of July. Community Development has approximately \$1.5 million for this demolition. He also stated that now that the City is the legal owner of the property there is a greatly chance of receiving grants from the state and federal government. There is 45 acres of developmental land that is located on the riverfront.

Committee vote 6 -0 favorable.

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM.